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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

23373 7590 10/06/2009

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.  
SUITE 800  
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

EXAMINER

MIRZA, ADNAN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2445

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/825,668	04/16/2004	Dong-Shin Jung	Q80017	8503

TITLE OF INVENTION: NETWORK DEVICE, SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING LIST OF CONTROLLED DEVICES

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	01/06/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

## HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

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B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

# **PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

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23373 7590 10/06/2009

**SUGHRUE MION, PLLC**  
**2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.**  
**SUITE 800**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20037**

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(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/825,668 04/16/2004

Dong-Shin Jung

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**TITLE OF INVENTION: NETWORK DEVICE, SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING LIST OF CONTROLLED DEVICES**

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	01/06/2010

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
MIRZA, ADNAN M	2445	709-203000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
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- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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10/825,668	04/16/2004	Dong-Shin Jung	Q80017	8503
23373	7590	10/06/2009	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			MIRZA, ADNAN M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2445	

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2009

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 1045 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 1045 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

**Notice of Allowability****Application No.**

10/825,668

**Applicant(s)**

JUNG ET AL.

**Examiner**

ADNAN MIRZA

**Art Unit**

2445

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 06/24/2009.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-26,28, 31-34, 36-38, 39-40, 42,45,46,47,48,50-53.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

/NIVEK SRIVASTAVA/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2445

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicants, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Christopher J Bezak on 09/08/09.

Please amend claim 13,16,20,21,26,31-34,36,37,40,42,45-48,50 and cancel claims 1-12, 35, 49.

Listing of Claims

1-12. (canceled).

13. (currently amended): A network system, comprising:

a control point which transmits discovery packets to search for devices existing in a network, receive response messages thereto and control the devices existing in the network; and

controlled devices, each of which receives notify messages transmitted from other controlled devices connected in the network, wherein each of the notify messages includes an operational state of the transmitting controlled device, generates, stores and

manages a list of service information on the operational state of all controlled devices connected in the network, through the received notify messages, and searches and transmits service information on a controlled device requested by the control point to the control point,

wherein the control point comprises a cache which stores information regarding devices on the network,

wherein each controlled device generates a token, transfers the generated token to another controlled device, and manages the token, the token transferring comprising:

checking, by the controlled device, the number of controlled devices in the list of controlled devices stored in the controlled device;

if it is determined that the number of controlled devices in the list is more than two, transferring the token and the stored list of controlled devices to another controlled device;

checking whether a response message is received from the other controlled device and operating a self-timer of the controlled device; and

if the response message is received from the other controlled device, stopping the self-timer and operating a waiting timer of the controlled device; and if the response message is not received from the other controlled device;

the controlled device deletes the other controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, from the list of controlled devices; and

the controlled device notifies a control point that the controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, does not exist in the network.

14. (previously presented): The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein each controlled device comprises:

a message receiving module which receives notify messages transmitted from the controlled devices connected in the network;

a device list management module which collects the service information regarding the controlled devices connected in the network and which creates and manages a list of service information of all the controlled devices connected in the network, wherein the service information includes the operational state of each of the controlled devices; and

a control module which searches for service information of a specific controlled device, which has been requested by the control point, in the device list management module and which transmits the searched information to the control point.

15. (original): The system as claimed in claim 14, wherein the message receiving module receives a search message transmitted from the control point.

16. (currently amended): The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein each controlled device further comprises a token management module which generates the token, transfers the generated token to another controlled device and manages the token.

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17. (original): The system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the control module responds to an information request message from the control point by checking whether the token is present in the controlled devices.

18. (original): The system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the checking of the presence of the token comprises using state information on the controlled devices.

19. (original): The system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the state information is any one of an initial state, an active state and a stop state.

20. (currently amended): The system as claimed in claim 16, further comprising a timer management module operable to create ~~the~~ self-timer, wherein when a token managed by a token management module is transferred to another controlled device, the self-timer checks a response time of the other controlled device to which the token is transferred.

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21. (currently amended): The system as claimed in claim 20, wherein the timer management module creates ~~the~~ waiting timer, and the waiting timer determines the total circulation time of the token for controlled devices existing in the network.

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22. (previously presented): The system as claimed in claim 16, wherein each controlled device further comprises a negotiation module which controls the validity of



each token when a plurality of tokens are present in the controlled devices existing in the network.

23. (previously presented): The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein the negotiation module determines whether the plurality of tokens are present by using state information of each controlled device.

24. (previously presented): The system as claimed in claim 22, wherein the negotiation module controls the validity of each token by comparing the numbers of controlled devices in lists of controlled devices stored in respective controlled devices having the tokens.

25. (original): The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein if the numbers of controlled devices in the lists held by the controlled devices are the same, the negotiation module controls the validity of each token by comparing the sums of network remaining duration times of the respective controlled devices registered in the lists.

26. (currently amended): A method of providing a list of controlled devices, comprising:

receiving notify messages from controlled devices connected in a network,  
wherein each of the notify messages includes an operational state of the transmitting  
controlled device;

collecting service information regarding the controlled devices connected in the  
network through the received notify messages and generating a list of controlled  
devices, wherein the list of controlled devices includes the operational state of each of  
the controlled devices;

receiving an information request message for a specific controlled device;

searching for information regarding the specific controlled device for which the

information request message is received, in the generated list;

transmitting the information regarding the searched specific controlled device

generating a token by each controlled device;

transferring the token to another controlled device, wherein the token transferring

comprises:

checking, by the controlled device, the number of controlled devices in the

list of controlled devices stored in a device list management module of the

controlled device;

if it is determined that the number of controlled devices in the list is more  
than two, transferring the token and the stored list of controlled devices to

another controlled device;

checking whether a response message is received from the other  
controlled device and operating a self-timer of the controlled device; and

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if the response message is received from the other controlled device,  
stopping the self-timer and operating a waiting timer of the controlled device; and  
if the response message is not received from the other controlled device:  
deleting, by the controlled device, the other controlled device, which has  
not transmitted the response message, from the list of controlled devices stored  
in the device list management module; and  
notifying, by the controlled device, a control point that the controlled  
device, which has not transmitted the response message, does not exist in the  
network.

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27. (canceled).

28. (original): The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the searching is performed when the token is present in the controlled device as a result of checking whether the token is present in the controlled device.

29-30. (canceled).

31. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the list transferring comprises modifying the list of controlled devices so the controlled device which has transferred the list becomes the last in the list, and identifying a controlled

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device, which has recorded as the first in the modified list, as a controlled device to which the list will be transferred.

32. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the self-timer determines a response time of the other controlled device to which the token is transferred.

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33. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the waiting timer determines the total circulation time of the token for controlled devices existing in the network.

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34. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 26, further comprising:  
if a token is not received from other controlled devices even after the operation of the waiting timer is completed, automatically generating a token.

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35. (canceled).

36. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 26, further comprising:

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if the response message is not received from the other controlled device, transferring the token and the stored list of controlled devices to a further controlled device by the controlled device.

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37. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 26, further comprising:

if a plurality of tokens are present in controlled devices existing in the network, performing negotiation for controlling the validity of each token.

38. (original): The method as claimed in claim 37, wherein the negotiation comprises:

controlling the validity of each token by comparing the numbers of controlled devices in lists of controlled devices held by the respective controlled devices having the tokens.

39. (original): The method as claimed in claim 38, wherein the negotiation further comprises:

if the numbers of controlled devices in the lists of controlled devices are the same as a result of the comparison, controlling the validity of each token by comparing the sums of network remaining duration times of the respective controlled devices registered in the lists.

40. (currently amended): A method of providing a list of controlled devices, comprising:

receiving, in a controlled device, notify messages from other controlled devices connected in a network, wherein each of the notify messages includes an operational state of the transmitting controlled device;

collecting service information on the controlled devices connected in the network through the received notify messages and generating a list of controlled devices, wherein the list of controlled devices includes the operational state of each of the controlled devices;

requesting, by a control point, information on a specific controlled device;

searching for, by the controlled device, the information regarding the specific controlled device requested by the control point, in the generated list;

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transmitting the information on the searched specific controlled device

generating a token by each controlled device;

transferring the token to another controlled device, wherein the token transferring comprises:

checking, by the controlled device, the number of controlled devices in the list of controlled devices stored in a device list management module of the controlled device;

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if it is determined that the number of controlled devices in the list is more than two, transferring the token and the stored list of controlled devices to another controlled device;

checking whether a response message is received from the other controlled devices and operating a self-timer of the controlled device; and if the response message is received from the other controlled device, stopping the self-timer and operating a waiting timer of the controlled device; and if the response message is not received from the other controlled device: deleting, by the controlled device, the other controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, from the list of controlled devices stored in the device list management module; and notifying, by the controlled device, the control point that the controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, does not exist in the network.

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41. (canceled).

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42. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim [[140], wherein the searching is performed when the token is present in the controlled device as a result of checking whether the token is present in the controlled device.

43-44. (canceled).

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45. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim [[140], wherein the list transferring comprises modifying the list of controlled devices so that the controlled

device which has transferred the list becomes the last in the list, and identifying a controlled device, which has been recorded as the first in the modified list, as a controlled device to which the list will be transferred.

46. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1140, wherein the self-timer checks a response time of the other controlled devices to which the token is transferred.

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47. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1140, wherein the waiting timer checks the total circulation time of the token for controlled devices existing in the network.

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48. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1140, further comprising:

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if a token is not received from other controlled devices even after the operation of the waiting timer is completed, automatically generating a token.

49. (canceled).

50. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1140, further comprising:

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if the response message is not received from the other controlled device, transferring the token and the stored list of controlled devices to a further controlled device by the controlled device.

51. (original): The method as claimed in claim 46, further comprising:

if a plurality of tokens are present in controlled devices existing in the network, performing negotiation for controlling the validity of each token.

52. (original): The method as claimed in claim 51, wherein the negotiation comprises:

controlling the validity of each token by comparing the numbers of controlled devices in lists of controlled devices held by the respective controlled devices having the tokens.

53. (original): The method as claimed in claim 52, wherein the negotiation further comprises:

if the numbers of controlled devices in the lists of controlled devices are the same as a result of the comparison, controlling the validity of each token by comparing the sums of network remaining duration times of the respective controlled devices registered in the lists.

54. (canceled).

#### Reasons for Allowance

1. Claims 13-26,28, 31-34, 36-38, 39-40, 42,45,46,47,48,50-53 will be allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The prior art references most closely resembling the applicant's claimed invention are Danknick et al (U.S. 6,021,429) in view of Holloway et al (U.S. 5,905,859).

First Danknick disclosed a network device that operates as a list manager on a network. The network device, acting as the list manager, maintains "a list of device addresses for the LAN." As illustrated in Figure 8, the list contains an Internet Protocol (IP) address of each device, a type of device, and manufacture. Danknick failed to disclose "generating a token by each controlled device; transferring the token to another controlled device, wherein the token transferring comprises: checking, by the controlled device, the number of controlled devices in the list of controlled devices stored in a device list management module of the controlled device; if it is determined that the number of controlled devices in the list is more than two, transferring the token and the stored list of controlled devices to another controlled device; checking whether a response message is received from the other controlled devices and operating a self-timer of the controlled device; and, if the response message is received from the other

controlled device, stopping the self-timer and operating a waiting timer of the controlled device; and if the response message is not received from the other controlled device: deleting, by the controlled device, the other controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, from the list of controlled devices stored in the device list management module; and notifying, by the controlled device, the control point that the controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, does not exist in the network" (claim 1, 26, 40).

Second Holloway disclosed a managed hub that, in response to receiving a filter set frame, sets a file corresponding to an intruding MAN address. The filter set frame is received from interconnect devices in a network in response to a network security

breach. However Holloway failed to disclose "generating a token by each controlled device; transferring the token to another controlled device, wherein the token transferring comprises: checking, by the controlled device, the number of controlled devices in the list of controlled devices stored in a device list management module of the controlled device; if it is determined that the number of controlled devices in the list is more than two, transferring the token and the stored list of controlled devices to another controlled device; checking whether a response message is received from the other controlled devices and operating a self-timer of the controlled device; and, if the response message is received from the other controlled device, stopping the self-timer and operating a waiting timer of the controlled device; and if the response message is not received from the other controlled device: deleting, by the controlled device, the other controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, from the list

of controlled devices stored in the device list management module; and notifying, by the controlled device, the control point that the controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, does not exist in the network" (claims 1,26,40).

In summary, the Examiner submits that neither Danknick, nor Holloway teaches all the limitations of independent claims in combination with other elements. Specifically prior

art does not teach "generating a token by each controlled device; transferring the token to another controlled device, wherein the token transferring comprises: checking, by the controlled device, the number of controlled devices in the list of controlled devices stored in a device list management module of the controlled device; if it is determined that the number of controlled devices in the list is more than two, transferring the token and the stored list of controlled devices to another controlled device; checking whether a response message is received from the other controlled devices and operating a self-timer of the controlled device; and, if the response message is received from the other controlled device, stopping the self-timer and operating a waiting timer of the controlled device; and if the response message is not received from the other controlled device, deleting, by the controlled device, the other controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, from the list of controlled devices stored in the device list management module, and notifying, by the controlled device, the control point that the controlled device, which has not transmitted the response message, does not exist in the network"; therefore, claims 13-26,28, 31-34, 36-38, 39-40, 42,45,46,47,48,50-53 have been deemed allowable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adnan Mirza whose telephone number is (571) 272-3885. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:30 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Vivek Srivastava can be reached on (571)-272-7304. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are listed herein below. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for un published applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866)-217-9197 (toll-free).

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/VIVEK SRIVASTAVA/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2445